

**GEM-DIESTERS AND EPOXIDIZED DERIVATIVES THEREOF****ABSTRACT**

In accordance with the present invention, there are provided *gem*-diesters and epoxidized derivatives thereof. When cured, thermosets comprising invention *gem*-diesters and epoxidized derivatives thereof have thermally and/or chemically labile *gem*-diester groups interspersed throughout the crosslinked network. Thus, thermosets based on invention *gem*-diesters and epoxidized derivatives thereof can be easily reworked thermally or chemically by treatment with dilute acidic or basic solutions. Further provided by the present invention are adhesive compositions comprising invention *gem*-diesters and epoxidized derivatives thereof.

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